

Remarks

The present amendment is being filed in response to the Official Action mailed on September 14, 2005. The Official Action objected to the claim for the benefit of a prior-filed application. The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5). Claims 1, 6 and 7 were objected to due to informalities. Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rogers et al. US Patent Application Publication 2003/0135836 ("Rogers"). This sole ground of rejection is addressed below.

Claims 1, 6 and 7 have been amended to be more clear and distinct.

The Objection to the Claim of Priority

Applicants acknowledge that priority date of the present claims is the filing date of the present application, March 11, 2004.

The Drawing Objections

Figs. 3 and 4 were objected to including the element 102, but not having a corresponding description of that element in the paragraphs of the specification describing Figs. 3 and 4, specifically paragraphs [0018] and [0019]. The specification has been amended to describe the drum shutter 102 in paragraph [0018]. The drum shutter 102 was introduced and described in the proceeding paragraphs. No new material has been added.

The Informality Objections

Claims 1, 6 and 7 have been amended to address the informality objections and substantially conform to the Examiner's suggestions. The Examiner is thanked for her careful reading of the claims.

The Art Rejections

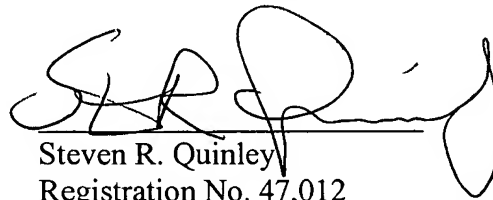
The Official Action rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rogers. No grounds that did not rely upon Rogers were cited in rejecting claims 1-9, all of the pending claims.

The present response is being filed in conjunction with a Showing of Common Ownership which serves to exclude Rogers as prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), and thus, 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Consequently, Rogers is not "prior" art and this case should be promptly allowed and the application proceed to issue as no other references are relied upon in rejecting claims 1-9.

Conclusion

All of the pending claims appearing to be in order for allowance, prompt allowance of the present application is requested. Any questions regarding this application may be raised by telephone with the undersigned if it is considered that processing of this application will be expedited thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SR Quinley', is written over a horizontal line.

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